

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1.-13. (Canceled)

14. (New) A measuring device for measuring changes in position of a body edge of a component, the measuring device comprising:

a slot extending from one side of the component, through, to the other side of the component, the slot delimited by body edges and at least one of the body edges being a measuring edge, the measuring edge changing position due to forces on the component;

a first light source emanating light on to the one side of the component and the slot, a portion of the light passing through the slot and exiting the slot on the other side of the component, the portion of the light exiting the slot changing in quantity due to changes in position of the measuring edge; and

a first sensor receiving and detecting changes in the quantity of the portion of the light exiting the slot.

15. (New) The device of claim 14, wherein

the first light source facing the one side of the component, and the first sensor facing the other side of the component.

16. (New) The device of claim 14, further comprising:

a reflector facing the other side of the component, and reflecting the portion of light exiting the slot, back into the slot, at least intermittently and at least partially; and

the first sensor receives the reflected portion of light.

17. (New) The device of claim 16, wherein

the first light source and the first sensor facing the one side of the component.
18. (New) The device of claim 14, further comprising a second sensor for receiving and detecting the light as emitted from the light source before it contacts the one side and the slot.
19. (New) The device of claim 18, further comprising a control device connected to the second sensor and to the light source.
20. (New) The device of claim 14 further comprising a second light source emanating a reference light directly to the first sensor, the reference light equaling an initial quantity of the portion of light exiting the slot prior to a change in the measuring edge.
21. (New) The measuring device of claim 14, wherein

a first light guiding medium connected to the first light source and guiding the light from the first light source to the one side of the component and the slot.
22. (New) The device of claim 14, wherein

a second light guiding medium connected to the first sensor and guiding the portion of light exiting the slot to the first sensor.
23. (New) The device of claim 21, wherein

the first light guiding medium is a fiber optic cable.

24. (New) The device of claim 22, wherein
the second light guiding medium is a fiber optic cable.
25. (New) The device of claim 14, wherein
the component is a rotary or a linear bearing.